

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: P.O. BOX 1460 ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

April 12, 2011

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

32 April 12, 2011

Chr (1. Hama SACHI A. HAMAI EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SANTA CLARA RIVER FLOODWAY
REVISION OF THE ADOPTED FLOODWAY (ML MAP 43-ML 26 AND 27)
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5)
(3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

This action is to adopt an ordinance to revise the Santa Clara River Floodway and related maps and water-surface elevations to reflect the partial channelization and construction of a soil cement bank protection, identified as Private Drain No. 2615, and proposed as part of the State Route 126 Commerce Center Drive Interchange Improvements Project, upon completion and acceptance of those improvements by the Director of Public Works.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Adopt the ordinance revising the Santa Clara River Floodway and related maps and water-surface elevations to reflect the construction of a soil cement bank protection, identified as Private Drain No. 2615, to become operative upon the completion and acceptance of Private Drain No. 2615 by the Director of Public Works.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On July 25, 1985, your Board of Supervisors (Board) approved and adopted Ordinance No. 85.0134 to establish a floodway and water-surface elevations for the Santa Clara River from Bouquet Canyon to the Ventura County line. As a result of the ordinance, construction-related activities within the established floodway are regulated to ensure that new developments are adequately protected from anticipated high-flow events.

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The Santa Clara River Floodway was adopted in connection with the County's participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The regulations implementing the NFIP (Title 44, of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 59, et seq.) require, under certain circumstances, that local governments establish floodways in those areas within their jurisdictions that are subject to flooding as a condition of eligibility to participate in the NFIP.

NFIP regulations also require that, prior to approving any project that will encroach into a floodway, your Board adopt an ordinance revising the floodway to incorporate the postproject condition.

The proposed enclosed ordinance and corresponding County Counsel analysis will revise the Santa Clara River Floodway to account for encroachments caused by the construction of a soil cement bank protection, identified as Private Drain No. 2615, as depicted on Exhibit A, which is a part of the proposed State Route 126 Commerce Center Drive Interchange Improvements Project. The proposed floodway revision has been reviewed and approved by the Department of Public Works (Public Works). The floodway maps are to be revised as depicted on Exhibits B and C.

The ordinance will not become operative until the proposed improvements have been completed and have been accepted by the Director of Public Works.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Public Safety (Goal 5) to continue to maintain and improve the safety and security of the people of the County of Los Angeles.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Budget or the County General Fund.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

An engineering analysis prepared by Pacific Advanced Civil Engineering, Inc., entitled Santa Clara River ML Revision Analysis dated October 2008 delineating the proposed revision has been approved by Public Works. This analysis indicates that properties owned by Newhall Land and Farming Company and Travel Village will be affected by the proposed encroachment into the Santa Clara River Floodway by Private Drain No. 2615, a soil cement bank protection project. Newhall Land and Farming Company and Travel Village have each executed a drainage covenant consenting to the alteration of the surface water drainage on their respective properties caused by Private Drain No. 2615.

Pursuant to 44 C.F.R. Sec. 65.12, the County is required to obtain the conditional approval of the project from FEMA and adopt floodplain management ordinances revising the floodway to reflect the postproject condition prior to proceeding with construction of the project. FEMA has given its conditional approval.

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ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

On December 5, 2006, your Board adopted by reference a Negative Declaration certified by the State of California Department of Transportation on June 22, 2006, and a Finding of No Significant Impact determination by the Federal Highway Administration on August 22, 2006, for the State Route 126 Commerce Center Drive Interchange Improvements Project. Private Drain No. 2615, a soil cement bank protection project, is within the scope of the project described in the previously adopted Negative Declaration and Finding of No Significant Impact.

Upon your Board's approval of the project, Public Works will file a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk in accordance with Section 21152(a) of the California Public Resources Code.

<u>IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)</u>

The project will have no adverse impact on current flood control services or projects.

CONCLUSION

Please return three adopted copies of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Watershed Management Division.

Respectfully submitted,

GAIL FARBER

Director

GF:GH:sw

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)

Hail Farher

County Counsel Executive Office





